

National and community service opportunities leading to employment outcomes for people with developmental disabilities.

A Quick Guide to Getting Started.

The Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC) is working in conjunction with the National Service to Employment Project (NextSTEP) to provide opportunities for personal and professional growth through a variety of national and community service experiences for people with developmental disabilities in Michigan. The following is a quick guide for Supports Coordinators on how clients can become involved in service opportunities that build skills for employment.

1. Identify potential service member.



Service programs can be ideal for individuals who are interested in developing skill sets to succeed in a job but may not yet have the experience or confidence needed to become employed.

2. Identify a national or community service program.



Identify a service program that matches your clients skills and interests by searching local programs on:
www.nationalservice.gov
www.michigan.gov/mcsc

Need Assistance?

If you have trouble identifying an appropriate program for your client, contact potential service programs directly or contact the MCSC Training and Inclusion Coordinator:
Megan Sargent
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4. Acceptance.

When an applicant is accepted to a service program position, he or she will be given a start date and end date for the service term, as well as, information on a living stipend and other benefits.



5. Provide supports.

Many sites provide natural supports. Accommodations that cost or require expertise can be handled by the MCSC Training and Inclusion Coordinator or addressed through a collaborative effort between the MCSC, the AmeriCorps program, and other disability organizations.

3. Apply to the national or community service program.

Applications can be filled out and submitted online through www.nationalservice.gov. Some applicants may need assistance with the application process if they have difficulty navigating websites and completing forms. Supports Coordinators and Service Programs are encouraged to collaborate to find appropriate service opportunities. The majority of service programs select members based on an application and a formal interview process and may have qualification requirements. Most service programs recruit new members in the spring and summer months.

To become part of a pilot studying people with developmental disabilities developing skills for employment through national and community service opportunities contact:

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